



## NEWS RELEASE

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## Oakland Man Sentenced to Prison for Human Sex Trafficking

A 37-year-old Oakland man convicted of trafficking a minor for prostitution and pimping another was sentenced today to 23 years to life in state prison, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

Rufus McNeely was found guilty by a jury on July 31 of human trafficking of a minor for a sex act, pandering by procuring a minor over age 16 and pimping in case KA103336.

During today's sentencing, Los Angeles County Superior Court Judge Victor Martinez also ordered McNeely to register as a sex offender for life.

Deputy District Attorney Michael Matoba, who prosecuted the case, said in September 2013, the defendant met a 16-year-old girl and lured her from her home in Oakland. As they drove through California, McNeely made the teenage girl prostitute in Los Angeles, San Bernardino, and Ventura County.

After some time, the girl called police and revealed what was occurring, the prosecutor said. Through a sting operation involving several law enforcement agencies, authorities arrested McNeely on Oct. 2, 2013.

At the time of his arrest, the defendant was being investigated for pimping a woman in El Monte in 2012. Based on McNeely's involvement with the teen and new evidence, officials had enough to also charge him in connection with the previous crime.

The case was investigated by the Claremont Police Department, Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, Department of Homeland Security – ICE, and the El Monte Police Department.

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**About the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office**

Los Angeles County District Attorney Jackie Lacey leads the largest local prosecutorial office in the nation. Her staff of nearly 1,000 attorneys, 300 investigators and 800 support staff members is dedicated to seeking justice for victims of crime and enhancing public safety. Last year, the [Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office](#) prosecuted more than 73,000 felony defendants and 113,000 misdemeanor defendants.